

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DACCA 02462 010719 Z

10

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

----- 094549

R 010535 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9904

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 2462

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG UN SWEL PINR BG UR

SUBJ: SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE IN BANGLADESH

REF: (A) STATE 096748; (B) STATE 0 97597 (TRANSMITTING USUN 1553)

1. EMBASSY UNINFORMED RE 40- ODD SALVAGE JOBS THERE REMAIN TO BE DONE IN CHITTAGONG HARBOR BUT TENDS TO THINK THAT REMOVAL OF SOME IF NOT ALL COULD BE OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE TO JUSTIFY PROCEEDING WITH THE CLEARANCE NOW. EXTENSION OF SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE, AT RELATIVELY SMALL MARGINAL COST TO USSR, WOULD SEEM TO BE BEST MEANS OF COMPLETING JOB. AS REPORTED IN DACCA MEMCON 4/20/73, SOVIETS MIGHT BE WILLING TO KEEP ON SALVAGE FLEET BEYOND SCHEDULED DATE OF DEPARTURE DECEMBER 1973 BUT REQUIRE FORMAL REQUEST FROM BDG. SUCH REQUEST TO OUR KNOWLEDGE HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE AND, FOR POLITICAL REASONS MENTIONED REF (A), MAY NEVER BE MADE.

2. ON OTHER HAND, SOVIET SALVAGE OPERATION HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN BROUGHT UNDER AS MUCH CRITICISM OR INNUENDO WITHIN PAST FIVE MONTHS AS WAS CASE OCCASIONALLY IN 1972. RECENTLY APPRECIATION HAS BEEN EXPRESSED OF JOB SOVIETS ARE DOING. CHITTAGONG ENGLISH- LANGUAGE DAILY " PEOPLE' S VIEW" INDEED HAS RUN EDITORIAL URGING BDG TO ASK FOR EXTENSION SOVIET SALVAGE FLEET ASSISTANCE.

3. ON BALANCE WE CAN SEE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE GENERALLY (AND ONLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DACCA 02462 010719 Z

NEGLIGIBLY INCREMENTAL POLITICAL LOSS TO US) IN SOVIETS' STAYING ON AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL AID. UN, JAPANESE OR OTHER THIRD- COUNTRY AID FOR CHITTAGONG SALVAGE THUS WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY AND COULD BE UTILIZED FOR OTHER HIGH- PRIORITY REQUIREMENTS.

4. FOREGOING COMMENTARY BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE, SUCH AS IT IS NOW, GENERATES NO SPECIAL DISQUIET FOR USG STRATEGIC INTERESTS. IF CONTRARY JUDGEMENT IS MADE, THEN FAR- REACHING ASSESSMENT OF OUR POSTURE IN RELATION TO USSR IN BANGLADESH WOULD NEED TO BE DONE. AN ISOLATED CHALLENGE TO SOVIET PROGRAM IN CHITTAGONG THROUGH UN OR THIRD COUNTRY WOULD INEVITABLY BE ASCRIBED TO US, WITH UNPREDICTABLE RIPOSTE TO BE EXPECTED FROM USSR AND/OR BDG.
NEWBERRY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973DACCA02462
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730624/aaaajgsl.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 73 STATE 096748, 73 STATE 0 97597 (TRANSMITTING USU
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <06-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980213
Subject: SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE IN BANGLADESH
TAGS: AORG, PINR, SWEL, BG, UN, UR
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
USUN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005